

Walter Stowers Home

Address: 4180 Burns

| | | |
|--------------|---|--------|
| Local | v | 1/1/71 |
| State | v | 2/7/77 |
| State Marker | | |
| National | v | 1/1/71 |



Walter Stowers House



Historic Overview:

Walter Stowers (1859-1932) was an eminent black citizen of Detroit associated with the Venture, a small newspaper, and was later the co-founder of the black newspaper the Plaindealer in 1883. Stowers was active in Republican politics becoming Deputy Sheriff of Wayne County in 1886, Deputy County Clerk in 1889 and was elected to the Wayne County Board of Supervisors in 1922. He also co-founded the law firm of Barnes & Stowers in 1905.

The house at 4180 Burns was the focus of a landmark legal decision concerning “closed housing”. Stowers was asked to move from the “white only” neighborhood. He argued the case in front of the State Supreme Court and its final ruling allowed him to stay.¹

¹ Information obtained from the National Register of Historic Sites Nomination Form for the Walter Stowers House.

